



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|--------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Applicants:  | Evans, Douglas G. et al.   | Group Art Unit:   | 3738              |
| Serial No.:  | 10/713,438   | Examiner:         | Blanco, Javier G. |
| Filing Date: | Nov. 14, 2003  | Atty. Docket No.: | KN P-0131         |
| For:         | Devices and Methods for Treating Defects in the Tissue of a Living Being |                   |                   |

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**AMENDMENT IN REPLY TO THIRD AND FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In regard to the Final Office Action dated February 9, 2005, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Please enter the **Amendments to the Claims** that begin on page 2 of this paper. Amendments are indicated by underscoring of text to be added, and by ~~striketrough~~ or [[double bracketing]] of text to be deleted.

Applicants' **Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.

This reply is being filed in connection with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Accordingly, Applicants kindly request that the finality of the pending Action be withdrawn. Further, in the same mailing as this paper, Applicants are submitting a petition for a one-month extension of time.